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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently amended) An apparatus to remove 2-hexenal from ginkgo leaves, said apparatus comprising

- (1) a microwave power chamber,  
(2) a rotator  
(3) ginkgo leave acceptance  
(4) an exhauster comprising an extension tube of the rotator having a narrower diameter than that of the rotator  
(5) humidity sensor and  
(6) temperature sensor

2. (Currently amended) The microwave power chamber of claim 1 comprises ~~is made of~~ a microwave generator and a chamber with microwave environment.

3. (Currently amended) The rotator of claim 1 comprises ~~is made of~~ a hollow cylinder having a ~~with~~ controllable rate of rotation.

4. (Currently amended) The ginkgo leaves of claim 1 are shredded pieces of 0.1 to 3 centimeters in dimension.

5. (cancelled).

6. (Currently amended) The 2-hexenal sensor of claim 1 comprises ~~is made of~~ a humidity sensor located near the exhauster.

7. The temperature sensor of claim 1 is made of a thermal sensor located near the exhauster.

8. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the rotator of claim 3 is replaced by a rotating disk plate to simplify the mechanical construction.

9. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein a ginkgo leaves feeder is incorporated in a conveyor belt for a facilitation of an assembly production.

10. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the treated ginkgo leaves retriever is incorporated in a conveyor belt for facilitation of an assembly production.

11. The apparatus of claim 1 for the production of precursors of ginkgo extracts free from 2-hexenal.

12. (New) A method for producing precursors of ginkgo extracts free from 2-hexenal comprising:

assembling a plurality of ginkgo leaves;

exposing said plurality of assembled ginkgo leaves to a field of microwave energy;

sensing at least one predetermined parameter of said plurality of assembled ginkgo leaves under irradiation by said field of microwave energy; and,

terminating said exposure of said plurality of ginkgo leaves to said field of microwave energy upon said at least one predetermined parameter achieving a preselected condition.

13. (New) The method of Claim 12 wherein said plurality of assembled ginkgo leaves are tumbled during exposure to said field of microwave energy.

14. (New) The method of Claim 12 wherein said plurality of assembled ginkgo leaves are rotated during exposure to said field of microwave energy.

15. (New) The method of Claim 12 wherein said plurality of assembled ginkgo leaves are shredded into pieces of 0.1 to 3 centimeters in dimension.

16. (New) The method of Claim 12 wherein said plurality of ginkgo leaves are assembled on a conveyor belt.

17. (New) The method of Claim 12 wherein said at least one predetermined parameter of said plurality of ginkgo leaves is the temperature thereof.

18. (New) The method of Claim 12 wherein said at least one predetermined parameter of said plurality of ginkgo leaves is the humidity thereof.

19. (New) The method of Claim 12 wherein said at least one predetermined parameter of said plurality of ginkgo leaves are the humidity and temperature thereof.